

April 13, 2013

To the Energy Tax Reform Working Group
and to whom it may concern;

I am writing as a member of the country's public, a working Vermonter, a parent, a native born citizen, property owner and taxpayer. I was born on, grew up on, and continue to work the land upon, property that has been in my family for several generations.

I am concerned with the ever-increasing degree of corporate control shaping our government at all levels, shaping our laws and influencing our legislators and leaders.

Now more than ever, we need to keep our citizens awake and invested in the energy solutions-finding process. We need to help middle class Americans weatherize their homes and increase efficiency/conservation on MANY levels! We need people and their communities to not blindly follow agendas but to instead feel like they are taking active part in creating and owning local energy solutions. These should involve strengthening communities, maintaining public trust, conserving/preserving tracts of land that naturally filter and perform watershed processes, conserving/preserving forested lands that absorb co2 naturally, and we need to preserve lands that create habitat for all wildlife and the ecosystems that provide such habitat as this is part of cycles that maintain our health as humans as well. Public good is about far more than prescribed government agendas. It is about the People. And this country was founded on that principle.

Please stop the Production Tax Credit as it is funneling and misdirecting funds and focus, when our nation's communities could be far more proactive in creating healthy, resilient, sustainable, community- and earth-friendly solutions, with better direction of funds/focus. The corporations will continue to create spin and exhaust the subsidies while the problems amplify and time runs out as well. Create environmental justice and climate change responsibility in the hands of the people, not by perpetuating the problems by letting the corporations bleed taxpayers dry, and control the lobbying and influence/buy politicians who then carry then subsidy-grabbing agendas at the taxpayers' expense. That should not be our nations focus now. Stop the Production Tax Credit farce, with courage, truth and transparency. Today. Before you look back and see the side we should have stood upon, too late!

Thank you for your consideration,
Vanessa Mills Holmquist

A large black rectangular redaction box covering the signature area.